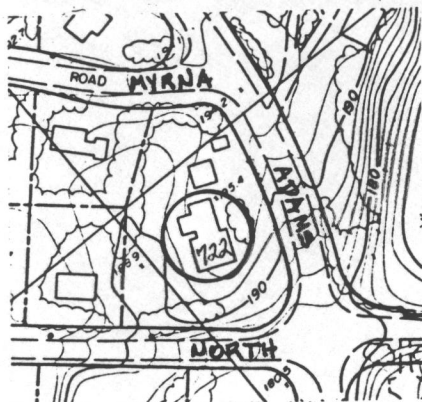


FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) February 1998

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

0076000026

Boston N.

722

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 104 North St.

Historic Name William P. Gibbs House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction ca. 1838

Source Deeds

Style/Form Greek Revival (altered beynd recognition) with
Queen Anne/Colonial Revival additions

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Fieldstone

Wall/Trim Vinyl Siding

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage, tool shed

Major Alterations (with dates)

Rear addition parallel to Adams St. (date unknown); front
gabled addition, bay and oriel windows (ca. 1890); rear
addition parallel to North St. (20th century)

Condition Fair

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 0.7 A.

Setting On an open corner lot on a busy street, across
from a Queen Anne but otherwise in a neighborhood of 20th-
century houses

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

104 North St. may originally have been a three-by-one bay side-gabled Greek Revival, but it has had many later additions and its integrity is compromised by its artificial siding. The present main house is essentially rectangular, 2½ stories, three-by-two bays, and side-gabled. The foundation is not visible on the exterior but the owner says it is fieldstone; the house is clad with vinyl siding and roofed with asphalt shingles. The entire front bay with its two gables is a later addition, however, and at the rear are two more additions: a long two-story front-gabled structure with a small ridge chimney parallel to Adams St. and, extending west from it, a two-story gabled structure on a concrete foundation parallel to North St. The main entry is in the center of the facade, as it probably was originally, and windows are 2/2 double hung sash. The porch formed by the overhanging second story is supported by square pilastered posts and has a spindle frieze. On the first story of the facade are two bay windows in the same style as the second-story oriel on the east elevation. There is a detached two-car garage and a small tool shed.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house was probably built by William P. Gibbs in the 1830s, but it is difficult to tell exactly when, for Gibbs acquired a number of parcels of land in the 1830s, at least one of which already had a house on it. Gibbs seems to have purchased the land on which this house is located in 1838 without buildings on it, however, and it is likely he built this house soon thereafter, for in 1841 he was assessed for *two* houses. Gibbs' mill on nearby Vine Brook burned in 1841 and in 1849 he lost his farm through a mortgage foreclosure. In 1888 the farm was acquired by an Abner J. Moody. An 1890 account of Lexington reported that Moody was making "extensive improvements," so it may have been at this time that the front bay and porch as well as the bay and oriel windows were added. The large mill stone next to the driveway reportedly came from Charlestown, although the grist mill that Gibbs and others once owned was located just over the Burlington line not far from this house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Hurd, D. Hamilton, ed. *History of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis & Co., 1890. 606.
Lexington Valuation lists. 1831-1841.

Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. Cambridge, MA. 371: 188; 383: 231; 843: 372; 1873: 234.

Worthen, Edwin B. *A Calendar History of Lexington, Massachusetts, 1620-1946*. Lexington, Mass.: Lexington Savings Bank, 1946. 62.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*